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ABSTRACT

In large type and in very simple language, this pamphlet informs parents about the provisions of Public Law 94-142. It states that children with handicaps can go to public school with other children, that the school must give the special help that children with handicaps need to learn in school, and that the special help is called special education. It provides a sample letter that parents can use in asking the school to assess the child for special education placement and a sample letter asking the school for a due process hearing. It shows an example of a form granting parental permission for psychological evaluation, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) form, and a form indicating the parents' consent to have the child placed in a special education program. The pamphlet briefly outlines what is included in an IEP and describes the parents' role and rights during the placement process. (JDD)

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HELP FOR



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SPECIAL CHILDREN

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
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EC 222024

Public Law 94-142 is a Law
to help **all** children
with handicaps
in the United States.



Public Law 94-142 says:

- Children with handicaps can go to public school with other children.
- The school must give the special help that children with handicaps need to learn in school.
- This special help is called special education.



The law tells the school to help
your child with special needs.

This special help is free.

Some children do not learn
as fast as others.



They may not be able to read,
or write or work with
numbers as well as other
children.



Some children may not get
along with others.

Some children may act up
in school.

They may get into trouble
in school.



No two children learn alike.

No two children have the
same needs.



Some children need extra
help to learn.

Some children who need
special help to learn
may be handicapped.



Public Law 94-142 (PL94-142)
says:

- Children with handicaps can go to public school with other children.
- The school must give the special help that children with handicaps need to learn in school.
- That special help is called special education.



PL 94-142 tells the school to find
young children with handicaps
who need special help.

Call the public school closest
to you if you think your child
will need special help to
learn in school.

Ask the school to test
your child.

Use a letter like the one below
to ask the school to test
your child.

Keep a copy of your letter.

Name of Principal _____
Child's School _____
Street _____
City/State/Zip _____

Date _____

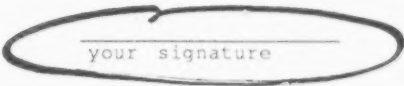
Dear Mr./Ms. _____ :

My child _____, whose birth date is _____,
goes to your school. He/She is not doing well.

I would like to have my child tested to see if he/
she needs special help.

Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,



your signature

You must sign a form before
the school can test your child.
The form will look something
like the one below.

**Request For Parental Permission For Psychological Evaluation
And Record of Informal Conference With Principal**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Because the professional staff of the building your daughter/son _____ is attending feels that a psychological evaluation is needed, and that the evaluation may result in recommendations for a change of educational programs, possibly for a specialized program, the XX School District wants to apprise you of the rights you and your son/daughter have.

1. You are to have been made aware of the need and reason to have your daughter/son evaluated in a conference with the principal.
2. You have the right to review all data in your son/daughter's cumulative folder.
3. You have a right to know that the types of tests to be used may include individual intelligence, achievement, eye-hand coordination, interest, aptitude, personality, and any others that the psychologist may deem necessary to complete a thorough evaluation. If you desire, you will have an opportunity to meet with the psychologist prior to the referral and proposed evaluation.
4. You have a right not to consent to the evaluation, but when you are asked to consent to a psychological evaluation, it is only done after considerable deliberation by the staff for the benefit of your daughter/son.
5. It is to be understood that the information obtained, the conclusions reached, and the recommendations made by the school psychologist shall be explained to you, shall be confidential, and shall not be released to any person outside the school district without your written permission. No change will be made in your son's/daughter's education program without your written permission.

Signature _____

If the tests show that your
child needs help,
the school will tell you.



If the tests do not show that
your child needs special help,
and you still think your child
needs special help, you
can ask for more tests.

You may use a letter like this
to ask for other tests.
Keep a copy of this letter.

Date _____

Name of Principal
Child's School
Street
City/State/Zip

Dear Mr./Ms. _____:

My child _____, whose birth date is _____,
was tested to see if he needed special education.

The tests did not show that my child needs special
help.

I do not agree. I know that my child has a learning
problem. I want my child tested again.

Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,

your signature

If your child does need Special
Education,
a special plan called an

***Individualized Education
Plan,***

will be written.

This is called an IEP.

Parents can help write the IEP.

The school must ask you to
the IEP meeting.

Individualized Education Plan

You can tell the school what special help you think your child needs. An IEP will look something like this:

STUDENT NAME _____ Page ____ of ____				
SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA AND MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED (AS REQUIRED)	EVALUATION OF SHORT-TERM INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES		
		Tests, Materials, Methods Evaluation Procedures, to be used	Date Obj. to be Accomplished	Criteria of Successful Performance
ANNUAL GOAL _____				
ANNUAL GOAL _____				

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Your child may need specially
trained people to work with
him in school.



Your child may need to ride on
a special bus to school and
back to your house.

Your child may need special
things to go to school.



The IEP should tell what help
your child needs to learn in
school and how the school
will give this help.

All the special help in the IEP
will be free.

The IEP will tell you the things
your child should learn
during the year.

If you want the IEP to say more,
or if you would like changes in
the IEP, tell the school.

Name of Principal _____
Child's School _____
Street _____
City/State/Zip _____

Date _____

Dear Mr./Ms. _____:

My child _____, whose birth date is _____,
has not been doing well in school. I would like to
meet with you to talk about his/her IEP.

I can meet with you on the following days, _____,
_____, and _____, between the hours of _____
and _____.

Please contact me to schedule a meeting. You can
reach me at your phone # _____. Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,

your signature

You may use a letter like this to
ask for changes in the IEP.
Keep a copy of this letter.

You and the people at the
school can talk about a
class for your child.



Your child may be with other
children who are not
handicapped or in a special
class only for children who
have handicaps.



You must sign a form before the school can place your child in a special education program. This form will look something like the one below:

STUDENT NAME _____ Page ____ of ____

Beginning Date _____ Anticipated Duration _____

SPECIFIC SPECIAL EDUCATION TO BE PROVIDED, (I.D., E.M.R., S.E.D., Gifted, etc.) _____

RELATED SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED, (Transportation, Physical Therapy, Counseling, etc.) _____

CHECK THE PROGRAM TO BE PROVIDED AND SUPPLY THE EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION.

A. SPECIAL EDUCATION

PROGRAM	✓	EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION
SPECIAL EDUCATION DELIVERED IN REGULAR CLASS		
ITINERANT		
RESOURCE		
PART-TIME		
FULL TIME		
IN-HOME		
APPROVED PRIVATE SCHOOL		

B. REGULAR EDUCATION

PROGRAM	✓	EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION
ACADEMIC		
VOCATIONAL		
ART		
MUSIC		
PHYSICAL EDUCATION		

Total Extent of Participation in: SPECIAL EDUCATION _____ + REGULAR EDUCATION _____ = COMBINED TOTAL _____

TYPE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN WHICH THE STUDENT WILL BE PARTICIPATING: _____

I participated in a meeting to develop this program on this date: _____

Parent or Guardian

DATE

WHITE - Pupil's School File
YELLOW - Parent or Guardian
COPIES: PINK - Teacher
GOLD - Other

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You must sign a form saying "YES" before the school can put your child in special education.



You may go to the school to
see the special education
class and watch your
child work, or play.

If you still have strong feelings that your child's program is not helping, and you believe more should be done, you can ask for a hearing.



At a hearing, a person listens to your problems and to the school's and decides what is best for your child.

You may use a letter like this to
ask the school for a hearing.

Keep a copy of this letter.

Date _____

Name of Principal
Child's School
Street
City/State/Zip

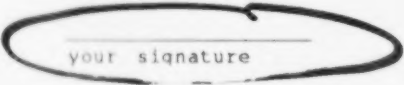
Dear Mr./Ms.:

My child _____, whose birth date is _____,
is in teacher's name class.

He/She is not doing well in school. I have met with
the teacher many times, but I am not pleased with
his/her IEP.

I would like to have a hearing to see what special
help my child may need. Thank You.

Sincerely Yours,


your signature

Other parents can be very
helpful to you.

They can help you understand
how special education
works in your school.





They can help you with
advice on many things

and

you can talk to each other
about ideas and feelings.

*Public Law 94-142
is a law to help your child.*

If you need help to:

- get your child tested
- get special education for your child
- decide how to teach your child
- change the special education program your child is in . . . **write or call:**

NICHCY

Box 1492
Washington, D.C. 20013

(703) 893-6061 (voice and TDD)
(800) 999-5599 Toll Free (recorded message)



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